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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Present Locations of the Central and South China
Military Area Command and 4 Field Army HeadquartersDATE OF
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except as noted

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(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. On 15 May 1952 YEH Chien-ying was formally appointed acting commander of the military affairs of all Central and South China. Upon his appointment, YEH decided to move the command center of the Central and South China (CSC) Military Area and of the 4 Field Army (FA) to Canton. The move began in late June and was completed in mid-July. The location of troop units remained unchanged.
2. A number of personnel changes were made. Important South China Military District officers were incorporated into the CSC Military Area Command in order to permit the eventual merger of the South China Military District organization into the CSC Military Area Command. An "Office of the Acting Commander" was established in Canton to supervise the CSC Military Area and 4 FA offices which had moved there; this Office is headed by HUANG Yung-sheng (7806/3057/0524), newly appointed chief of staff, assisted by deputy head WANG Hsi-ping (3769/6007/1456). TAN Cheng (who commutes to Hankow) is political commissar.
3. This Office organization includes the following offices, which had been transferred to Canton from Hankow:
 - a. The Secretarial Office under deputy chief LIU Fei-jan (0491/2431/3544), including the Confidential Bureau under LIANG Wei-hsin (2733/4850/2450).
 - b. The Staff Department under deputy head LIANG Han-fu (2733/3352/1133).
 - c. The Cadre Administration Department under the newly appointed head LIU Hsing-yuan (0491/5281/0337), including the Personnel Department under LIANG Hung-chih (2733/7703/1807).²
 - d. The Political Department under T'AO Chu (7118/6999), with LIANG Pi-yeh (2733/1801/2814) and CH'IU Hui-tso (6726/2585/0155) as deputies. This includes the Organization Department under LIANG Pi-yeh, the Youth Department

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under WU Tao-ming (0702/6670/2494), the Culture Department under CH'EN Huang-mei (7115/5435/2734) and WANG Yeh-t'u (3769/3601/0960), the Propaganda Department under CH'EN Tsai-hsing (7115/0375/5281), and the Security Department under WANG Hsi-p'ing.

- e. Supply and Service Command units, including quartermaster, supply, ordnance and transport units.

4. Three hundred automobiles and trucks, [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] were also transferred to Canton.

5. Remaining in Hankow are the "Office of the Commander" and a small number of representatives from the offices which have moved to Canton; these representatives are headed by SU Ching (5685/7234), who is deputy chief of staff. Some parts of the Supply and Service Command also remain. Also in the Wuhan area are the CSC Military Area Air Force Command at Liuchiamiao Airfield, the CSC Military Area Public Security Command and the CSC Military Area Artillery Command. The CSC Military Area Army Engineers Command remains at Changsha and the CSC Military Area Naval Command remains at Canton.

6. Events leading up to the appointment of YEH as acting commander of the CSC Military Area and the 4 FA were as follows:

- a. When LIN Piao went to the Northeast with his troops at the outbreak of the Korean war, TENG Tzu-hui took over LIN's duties as chairman of the CSC Military and Administrative Committee, while TAN Cheng and CHAO Erh-lu took over LIN's duties as commander of the CSC Military Area and the 4 FA.
- b. After LIN Piao's departure, the Revolutionary Military Council (RMC) felt that the regional defenses of Kwangtung and Kwangsi required the attention of a responsible person, so it re-established the South China Military District with YEH Chien-ying as commander and TAN Cheng as political commissar concurrently with his other duties.
- c. In January 1952 the RMC, realizing that LIN Piao's absence would be prolonged, appointed YEH as LIN's deputy with full authority to command the CSC Military Area and the 4 FA. However, YEH's concurrent duties as governor of Kwangtung prevented his leaving Canton for Hankow, so he did not exercise this authority but permitted TAN Cheng and CHAO Erh-lu to continue as before.
- d. In order to guard against surprise military attacks by the Nationalists, the RMC finally decided in May to unify the command in Central and South China, thus making 4 FA troops readily available wherever needed.

[redacted] Comment. [redacted] for comments on YEH Chien-ying's recent appointments. These two reports are in agreement.

1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] (Organization and Personnel of the CSC Military Area and 4 FA Headquarters), [redacted] lists many of the same personnel in the same positions at Hankow in January 1952. 25X1

2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] gave LIANG as head of the 4 FA Personnel Department; there was a separate CSC Military Area Personnel Department under WANG Ch'i-chao. 25X1

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